

A New Species of *Ischalia* from Southeastern China

(Coleoptera: Pyrochroidae)

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***Ischalia* (*Ischalia*) *chinensis* new species**

(Figures 1, 3, 4)

Description.—Length 4.9-5.8 mm. Body, exclusive of abdominal tergites, moderately covered with yellowish setae, those of elytra more erect than those associated with remainder of body.

Male.—Head sooty yellowish-brown unevenly suffused with dark brown to piceous markings; frontal aspect with shallow longitudinal groove mesally, between eyes. Antennae dark brownish to piceous basally, gradually becoming lighter toward apices. Terminal segment of maxillary palpus cup- or scoop-like, with outer surface convexly rounded and inner aspect concavely depressed.

Pronotum, scutellum, and ventral thorax sooty yellowish-brown unevenly suffused with brownish to piceous coloration. Pronotum irregularly concave in lateral view; gibbose anteriorly, sloping downward posteriorly for two-thirds of its length, then gradually upward toward hind margin. Anterior margin of pronotum (Fig. 1) weakly sinuate mesally, lateral margins evenly rounded from front posteriorly to the acute, weakly produced hind angles. Pronotal disk with prominent median carina which is produced posterad of hind margin, and 2 circular impressions or pits on either side of the carina: one near the carina and another near the postero-lateral margin. Mesepisterna widely separated. Legs sooty yellowish-brown to nearly piceous. Elytra elongate and covering abdomen, somewhat broader posteriorly with apices slightly separated along suture, surface densely and coarsely punctate to nearly reticulate; entirely pale yellowish-brown to yellowish-brown with pale brownish sutural margins. Sutural, humeral, lateral discal, and lateral carinae present with humeral carinae about one-third the length of lateral discal carinae, the later gradually curving inwardly toward the sutural carinae but terminating distant from them. Hind wing (Fig. 3) fully developed, pale yellowish in color.

Abdomen sooty yellowish-brown ventrally, unevenly suffused with brownish to piceous patches. Parameres ventrad of aedeagus, fused along entire length and broadly emarginate apically with 6 setae near apex, 3 on either side (Fig. 4).

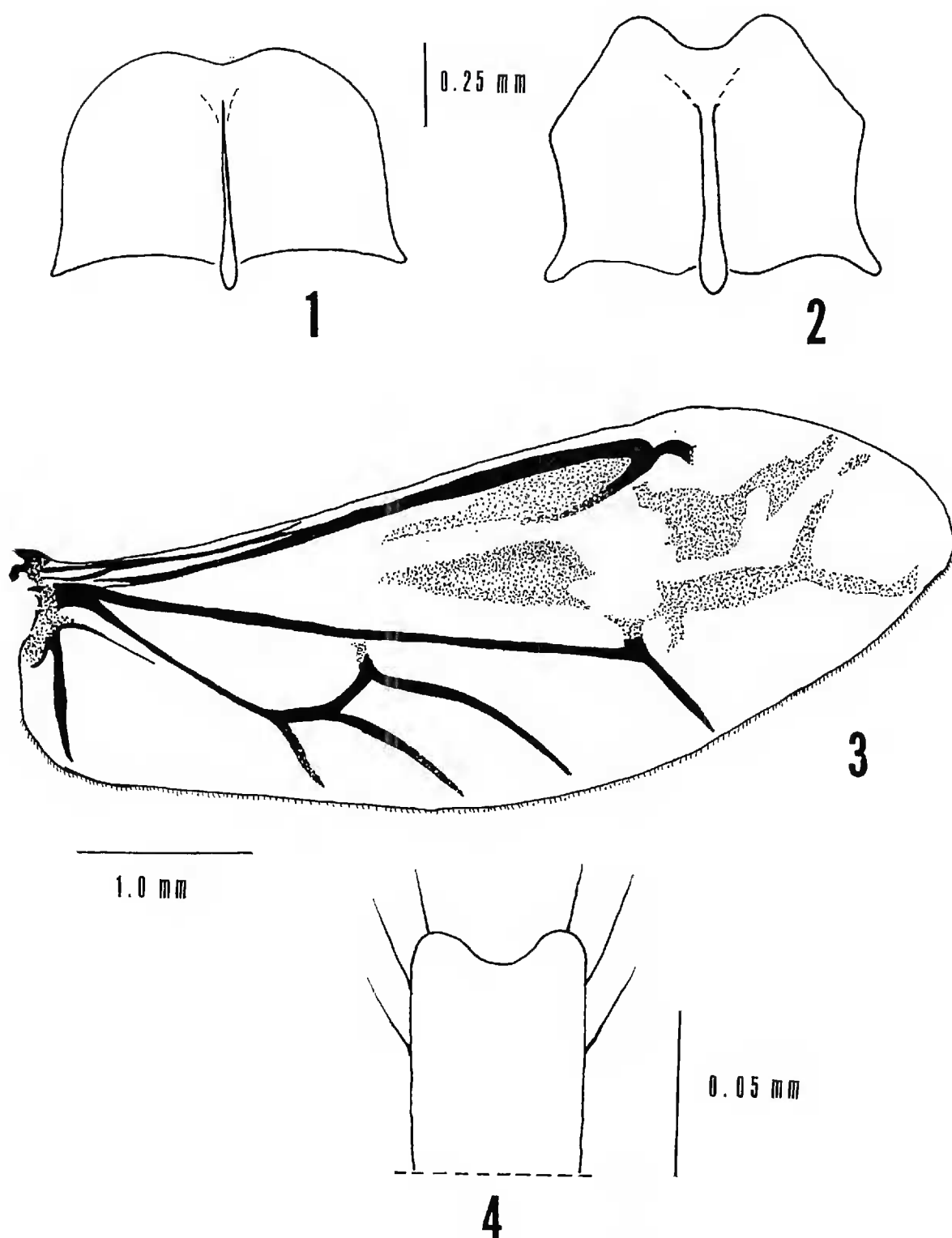
Female.—Differs from the male by having the terminal antennal segment excavated on outer surface, with the excavation densely setose.

TYPE INFORMATION: HOLOTYPE: (♂), HONG SAN, SE; KIANGSI, CHINA; 15 July 1936; L. Gressitt Collector; L. Gressitt Collection (CASC).

ALLOTYPE: (♀), same data as holotype except date: 16 July 1936 (CASC).

PARATYPE: (1 ♀), MOKANSAN, CHINA; CheKiang Pr.; 19 September 1927; Mrs. Dora E. Wright Collector (CASC).

DISTRIBUTION: As detailed above, southeastern China: KiangSi and CheKiang provinces.



FIGS. 1-4. Structures of *Ischalia*. Fig. 1. *I. chinensis* Young, pronotal outline, dorsal aspect. Fig. 2. *I. suturalis* Blair, pronotal outline, dorsal aspect. Figs. 3-4. *I. chinensis*. Fig. 3. Right hind wing of male. Fig. 4. Distal portion of fused parameres, dorsal aspect.

REMARKS: The presence of widely separated mesepisterna places *I. chinensis* in the subgenus *Ischalia* as redefined by Paulus (1971).

This species comes closest to the description provided by Blair (1912) for his *suturalis* of Assam, India. Through the kindness of C. M. F.

von Hayek and the British Museum of Natural History, two syntypes of *suturalis* were made available to the author for comparison.

The most striking difference between the species is the shape of the pronotum, with that of *chinensis* (Fig. 1) slightly more transverse than that of *suturalis* (Fig. 2), and the hind pronotal angles of the former but weakly produced (strongly so in *suturalis*). The lateral pronotal margins of *chinensis* are evenly rounded from front to back and the anterior margin gradually and weakly impressed mesally, while in *suturalis* the lateral margins are slightly produced midway along their length and the anterior margin is more abruptly and deeply sinuate mesally.

Another major difference is the shape of the terminal segment of the maxillary palpus, with that of *chinensis* convexly rounded on its outer aspect and the inner surface deeply excavated to form a cup- or scoop-like structure (in *suturalis* both surfaces are convexly rounded, thus forming a bulbous structure).

The presence of an excavation in the terminal antennal segment of the female makes *chinensis* unique among the Ischaliinae known to the author, since secondary sexual dimorphism has not previously been recorded for the group. Young's (1975) description of the genus must be expanded to include this feature.

I should like to acknowledge D. H. Kavanaugh of the California Academy of Sciences (CASC) and H. B. Leech, formerly of the California Academy of Sciences, for the loan of undetermined Asian Pyrochroidae which produced the specimens of *chinensis*. Also, my thanks are extended to C. M. F. von Hayek of the British Museum of Natural History for the loan of two syntypes of *Ischalia suturalis* Blair, and to S. G. Wellso of Michigan State University for reviewing the manuscript.

LITERATURE CITED

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